

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, amend the paragraph beginning on line 1 to read as follows:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to a form for a printing element which is one of a plurality of printing elements, separated from one another all ~~round~~around by lands, on a printing unit in an offset printing process such as, in particular, rotary offset printing, the printing element being in each case of a geometric, polygonal shape.

Page 3, amend the paragraph beginning on line 17 to read as follows:

One solution to this problem is known from the form of printing element detailed in EP A 0 825 490. The imaginary screen cells are arranged in a chessboard pattern and in each of them is ~~a~~-arranged a printing element, so that, if a tonal value, whatever it may be, remains constant across the screen cells, the shortest distance to the adjoining printing element is of at least approximately the same size for all points on the boundary lines of a printing element. In this case the printing element is to have a substantially rhomboid area, the boundary lines of which extend in curves in such a way that they form two diagonally opposed acute angles and two diagonally opposed rounded or obtuse angles. A printing element in the form of a flag is thus formed.

Page 4, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following headings:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.

Page 6, before the paragraph beginning on line 1, insert the following heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS.

Page 6, before the paragraph beginning on line 14, insert the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.

Page 7, amend the paragraph beginning on line 3 to read as follows:

The printing points 11 or inked points 11' are printing elements as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. They are very small in practice and cannot be distinguished from one another with the naked eye. Fig. 2 is a very much enlarged view of such a printing element in the propeller figuration according to the invention. The propeller has four S-shaped lines 15 all of the same length forming its sides. Each line forming a side begins at the corner with a line descending into a valley 15' and ends with a line descending from a hump 15" or, going in the other direction, starts with a line ascending to a hump 15" and ends with a line ascending from a valley 15'. The S-shaped lines include an angle  $\leq 90^\circ$  at all of the corners of the printing element. If the S-shaped lines forming the sides are all the same length, what is obtained at the corners, where a line from a hump that is ending meets a line into a valley that is starting, is an angle of  $90^\circ$ .

Page 7, amend the paragraph beginning on line 17 to read as follows:

With this figuration for the printing element 17, mirroring produces an element which is of the same shape but mirrored and which; when overlaid with the main

colour, shows only rounded corners. The prerequisite for this is mirroring of the printing element in a direction transverse to an axis X - X running through the centre and the points of reversal and between the opposing S-shaped lines of a printing element. ~~Figs. 3~~ Figure 3 shows a printing element 17' which has been mirrored in this way and which is, in addition, of the same size in this case. Depending on the mixed colour that is wanted, the sizes of the two printing elements that come together may also be different in practice. What is essential is only that, with the same figuration for the printing elements and thus with no change to the software for producing the printing elements, parts of a printing element is printed unmixed in its own colour, which prevents Moire patterns. If the requisite corners of the printing element are always round after the mirroring, the Moire patterns are avoided without the printing element having to be rotated about its central axis.